

# South Central Regional Land Office

## A Management Overview

Rick Thompson  
Regional Manager

# Mission: Department

- Department of Natural Resources:
  - Develop, Conserve, and Maximize the use of Alaska's Natural Resources consistent with the public interest

# Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources

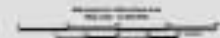
## Divisions

- Parks & Outdoor Recreation
- Geological & Geophysical Surveys
- Mental Health Land Trust Office
- Project Management & Permitting
- Mining, Land & Water
- Oil & Gas
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Joint Pipeline Office
- State Records Office
- Support Services

# Division of Mining, Land & Water Management

- Realty Services -Title
- State Surveyor
- Appraisals
- Regional Offices
  - Northern
  - South Central
  - South East
- Water
- Land Disposals
- Mining
- BLM 2009
- Resource Allocation

Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Land Regions



Northern  
Region

Southcentral  
Region

Southeast  
Region



# SCRO Land Management Programs/Activities

- Leasing
- Land Use Permits
- Commercial Recreation Permits
- Material Site Development/Sales
- Recreation Facilities
- ILMA
- Rights of Way
- Shipwrecks
- Trespass
- Management agreements
- 906k Process
- Vacations
- Hazardous Materials
- SUA
- PUA
- LDA
- Federal Management Overlap

# South Central Regional Office Factoids

- Total staff of 36 persons
- 60,000,000 acres responsibility
- Regional Governments
  - 8 Organized Boroughs
  - 9 Regional Education Attendance Areas
- Native Languages
  - 8 Athabaskan-Eyak-Tlingit
  - 3 Eskimo-Aleut
- 5 Climatic Zones
- 3 Permafrost Zones
- 8 Regional Corporations
- 6 Parks & Preserves
- 8 Wildlife Refuges
- 8 State Parks
- 15 Marine Parks

# Land Base

- State Land - Surface
- Public Domain
  - Uplands
  - Tidelands
  - Shore land
  - Submerged Land
- Special Categories
  - State Forests
  - Agricultural
  - Selected
  - Legislatively Designated
  - Special Use Areas



More ... Land Base

Private

Federal

University

Mental Health

Borough, Municipal, City

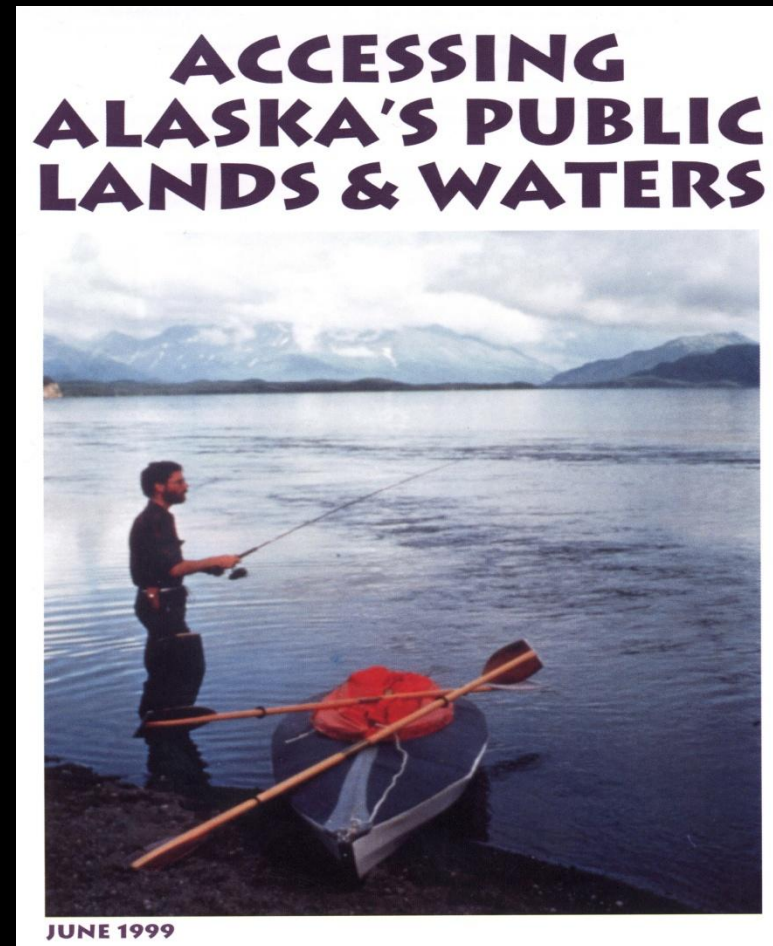
# Why is DNR Different?

## Landowner and Regulator

- Land Owner - Stewardship
  - Plan for and classify land for public & private use.
  - Needs of future generations must be considered.
  - Must involve and consider opinions and concerns of general public and local governments and communities in resource allocation decisions.
  - Act as “agent” or “trustee” for the real “owners”, the citizens of Alaska.
- Regulator
  - Develop policies and regulations to guide management of public domain resources.
  - Conduct monitoring and compliance program to protect affected state resources.
- Decision Maker
  - Market all proposals, consider all comments and concerns, interpret laws and regulations, make administrative decisions, provide for administrative review, and finally, defend decision in court if necessary.

# Major Issues and Challenges for the Public Land Manager

- Social
- Political
- Economic
- Cultural
- Environmental



# DNR Authorizations Address

- Orderly use of state land and water
- Authorized structures
- Authorized uses
- Site disturbance
- Site restoration
- Indemnification
- Wastewater disposal
- Hazardous substance management
- Garbage storage and disposal
- Compliance with local state, federal laws and ordinances

# Anatomy of Conflict

- These are “quality of life” issues
- Social, economic, political, environmental, legal frameworks
- Complex and simple
- Interrelated and interdependent
- Values versus values
- Mistrust of government

# Science Needs

## General

- Relevant, useable, implementable data
- Readily available data
- DNR data availability

## Specific

- Stewardship: ownership
- Regulatory: damage
- Coastal Erosion
- Ocean currents, effects
- Habitat values

# Risk Management

- Sparrow concludes: “Risk management sticks closely to the regulatory mission. It does not imagine that keeping people happy takes precedence. It is highly analytical in the choices it makes, it is outcome oriented in the goals it sets, and rigorous about measurement and monitoring. It provides systematic forms of accountability. Choices are explained publicly and can be reviewed and appealed. Risk management provides a rational, defensible and structured way of being flexible; not a careless, arbitrary or corrupt one.”

# Discretion

- Sparrow argues that discretion cannot be eliminated from regulation, and in fact regulation must allow for “richer forms of discretion that allow regulators to pick important problems, define and formulate them, and devise creative tailor-made solutions for them.”